

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY SURGEONS.

Thursday, August 17th.

The meeting was called to order at 2 p. m. at Hotel St. Francis, San Francisco, by F. T. Adams, who introduced the president, N. H. Morrison, who then delivered the annual address.

After reading the minutes of the previous meeting and the reports of officers and committees, the following papers were presented:

"Multiple Tumors of the Brain. Operation and Recovery," W. B. Coffey, San Francisco.

"Some of the Traumatic Neurosis Following Injuries of the Head and Spinal Cord, in Connection With Railway Accidents," David Powell, Marysville.

"Some Observations Relative to Neurological Surgery," Wallace I. Terry, San Francisco.

"Medical Jurisprudence in Railway Surgery," W. O. Spencer, Huntington, Or.

"Fractures," J. C. Booth, Lebanon, Or.

"Typhoid Fever. Observations on 179 Cases Treated at the Southern Pacific Company Hospital, San Francisco, Particularly from the Standpoint of a Railway Physician," George R. Carson, San Francisco.

"The Inadequacies of the Present Methods for the Recognition of Distant Color Signals," Redmond Payne, San Francisco.

"Traumatic Hysteria," J. D. Grissim, San Jose.

"Shock, and How Best to Treat," O. Stansbury, Chico.

"Pathology and Treatment of Tetanus," T. C. McCleave, Berkeley.

"A Few Observations and Fewer Conclusions on Railway Surgery," H. Hildreth, Delano.

Friday, August 18th.

At 8:30 a. m. there was an exhibition of patients and surgical clinic at the Southern Pacific Company Hospital, Fourteenth and Mission streets, by members of the association.

Hotel St. Francis, 2 p. m.

"Gastro-Enterostomy in Non-Malignant Diseases of the Stomach and Duodenum," J. H. O'Connor, San Francisco.

"The Surgery of the Hand," Thomas L. Magee, San Diego.

"Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Certain Eye Diseases and Injuries Occurring in Railway Employés," Robert W. Miller, Los Angeles.

"Transportation of the Injured," C. W. Kellogg, Kern.

"Some Points in Regard to the Early Diagnosis of Tuberculosis," C. C. Browning, Highland.

"The Open Dressing of Fractures, as the Experience of a Country Doctor," O. P. Askam, Mountain View.

"Traumatic Meningeal Abscess; Report of Cases," J. A. Colliver, San Bernardino.

"A Few Points in Surgical Technique," A. W. Morton, San Francisco.

"The Hypodermic Use of Ergot Outside of Its Use in Obstetrics," S. E. D. Pinniger, Lovelock, Nev.

"Septic Infections of the Extremities," C. L. Abbott, Point Richmond.

"The Hospital Car," W. Lee Moore, Verdi, Nev.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION.

Riverside, April 17, 1905.

Meeting was called to order at 11 A. M. by the President, Dr. Le Moynes Wills, of Los Angeles, who delivered an appropriate address of welcome, eloquently setting forth the great good to be done by the Association in the cause of sanitation and humanity, and predicting for it a long career of usefulness.

Dr. N. K. Foster made a report on legislation by giving a synopsis of the principal bills passed by the last legislature, and explaining the duties of different ones in relation to their enforcement.

At 12:20 adjournment was taken until 1:30 P. M.

At 1:30 P. M. the meeting was called to order by the President, and Dr. Cobb, past assistant surgeon United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, read a paper on "Flies as Carriers of Disease." This paper was full of breezy, stinging facts, and shows conclusively the close relations between the fly and disease. It is born and bred in filth, and covered with the foulest parts of its surroundings visits our table and shares with us our food, exercising great care to light upon the most delicate parts. Typhoid fever, cholera and tuberculosis are the most common diseases conveyed by the fly, but others may be so conveyed. Breeding in horse manure almost exclusively, his propagation can and should be controlled.

Dr. von Adelung commends the paper and its conciseness and general manner. Oakland has an ordinance that all stable manure must be in a covered box. He believes that we should inspect kitchens of restaurants where we eat; that it would have a salutary effect on the keeper, and we would have a less abundant supply of flies.

Dr. Hassler of San Francisco reported an epidemic of typhoid fever at the cement works near Suisun. Near the kitchen was a stable swarming with flies, with a bunk house close by, the balcony rail of which was used as a privy seat even for the sick. Cultures were made from cake taken from the table, and typhoid developed. By eliminating the flies the epidemic was stopped.

Dr. Browning of Highlands thinks it should be considered a disgrace to have flies around a house, and that this source of infection may be eliminated by a united effort of the people.

Dr. Cobb, in closing, said that flies almost wholly propagate in horse manure, and should be destroyed. The government will probably soon study the fly more thoroughly. He cited instances of cities controlling the flies by laws against their breeding places: Evanston, Ill., does not allow stables within certain limits in residence parts of the city, and all manure must be in closed receptacles; they have no flies. Sanitary stores are being started where goods are enclosed under glass, and they should be encouraged. In 4 days after flies ingested "foot and mouth disease" germs, their stomach contained millions of them, and these they will hold for many days, and one little speck defecated on food will infect it. To our army belongs the honor of discovering that flies carry typhoid fever, and to the Japs the honor of applying it. The intestinal tract of man has some resisting power to germs, but not to the extent some suppose. Hogs get cholera only through food, as probably cows get tuberculosis. In dogs fed on tuberculous bouillon in four hours the thoracic duct was found thronged with the tuberculous bacilli.

Dr. Blue of the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service having been called East, the next paper on "Disinfection" had to be passed.

Dr. Hassler of San Francisco read a paper on "Methods Employed in the Eradication of an Infectious Disease in the Chinese Quarter of San Francisco." This was a thorough and interesting history of the plague in San Francisco, and will be preserved as being the most authentic account of that trouble extant.

Dr. Bates complimented the sanitary authorities who had been so successful in stamping out this disease and stopping what might have been a dangerous epidemic. Dr. Cobb thought that the wiping out of this epidemic was a landmark in the handling of plague, and in the future all epidemics will be handled on the basis of what California did.

Dr. Cobb asks, "Does the flea carry the disease from the rat to the human?" Dr. Hassler replying, "We have taken fleas free from infection and allowed them to feed on infected rats, and obtained pure cultures from them."

Dr. Regensburger mentioned the fact that we had a governor who was in sympathy with the work, and gave the state board full power to work for the eradication of disease. Referring to Dr. Blue and his

work, he thinks he should be recognized, and moved a vote of thanks to be sent through the surgeon general. Carried, and the following was sent:

"Resolved, That the thanks of the California Public Health Association be extended to Past Assistant Surgeon Dr. Rupert Blue for the efficient services rendered the state in combatting and stamping out bubonic plague;

"Resolved, That the above resolution of thanks be sent to General Wyman of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, and through him be forwarded to Dr. Blue."

A paper by Hon. H. A. Mason on "The Septic Tank as a Means of Sewage Purification," was read by the Secretary, Dr. Foster. He described the tank and its workings, giving many interesting facts and details, and asking some important questions.

Dr. Browning of Highlands read a paper on "State Control of Tuberculosis." He treated this ably, and no short report can do it justice. He claims the careless consumptive alone is dangerous. The state reports treating of sanitation should reach every teacher as well as every health officer. The state should have a sanatorium to treat cases before they become incurable. The outdoor treatment was discussed; also to have each county sustain a tuberculosis home.

Election of officers. Dr. Regensburger nominated Dr. von Adelung of Oakland for President. This was seconded, and carried unanimously. Dr. Foster nominated Dr. Wm. Simpson of San Jose for Vice President. Dr. Osborne seconded, and he was elected unanimously. Dr. Foster was elected Secretary and Treasurer.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the Board of Directors.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE AT THE PORTLAND MEETING.

The following is the full report of the special reference committee to which was referred the reports of officers of the A. M. A. and the resolutions pertaining to nostrums, advertising, etc.:

The president called for the report of the committee on reports of officers, which was read by Dr. Frank Billings, Chicago.

Discussion of address to delegates by President Musser.

Your committee recommends that the suggestions of the president be referred to the respective committees to which they should naturally go.

1. The suggestion for the possible improvement of scientific work of the sections to the reference committee on sections and section work.

On motion of J. Garland Sherrill, Kentucky, the suggestion was so referred.

2. The suggestions as to place of holding the annual sessions to the committee on transportation and place of session.

On motion of Dr. A. E. Baldwin, this part of the report was concurred in, and the suggestion was so referred.

The committee recommends that the address of the president be printed in the *Journal*.

It was moved and seconded that this recommendation be concurred in. Carried.

Discussion of report of the secretary.

1. We recommend that the request of the secretary of the American Electro-Therapeutic Association for the establishment of a section on electrotherapeutics, as quoted in the letter to Secretary Simmons, be referred to the committee on sections and section work.

2. We recommend the plan of organization with the system of reporting of the names of newly elected, deceased and recently resigned or suspended members of the county societies by the secretary of the county to the secretary of the state society, and the prompt transmission of the information by the latter to the office of the general secretary. We recommend, too, that the plan of transmission of this information as indicated by the general secretary, as well as the maintenance of a permanent record in the

form of a card index of the members of the county, state and national associations, should be continued.

3. We concur in and recommend that the suggestion of the secretary for the establishment of a Councilors' Bulletin be carried out.

4. We also recommend the Biographical Card Index which has been established by the secretary, and recommend that the work be continued.

5. We recommend that the report of the secretary be published in the *Journal*.

Dr. E. Eliot Harris, New York, moved the adoption of the report of the committee on the secretary's report. Seconded by Dr. C. S. Bacon, Chicago, and carried.

Discussion of board of trustees' report.

1. We congratulate the association on the excellent financial condition shown, and recommend a vote of thanks to the board of trustees for the judicious, conservative and wise management of the property and finances of this organization. We also recommend that the report be published in the *Journal*.

2. Report of the board of trustees on the creation of the Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry is, in the opinion of your committee, the most important and effective measure ever undertaken by this association to rid the profession of the abuse of the nostrum evil. The personnel of the council is of such a character as to create a feeling of confidence that the proposed work will be done thoroughly, conscientiously and justly. The publication of the results of the work of the council in book form with annual editions will afford a source of information of inestimable value to the profession.

3. Therefore, we recommend that the House of Delegates indorse the action of the board of trustees in the creation of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry; that the trustees be requested to devise a plan through which the council may be made permanent, and that the trustees request the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States government to give the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry recognition by authorizing the Bureau of Chemistry to co-operate with the council in its work.

4. We indorse the work already performed by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry in the formulation of rules governing the mode of selection of articles to be investigated and the publication of results already obtained.

5. We recommend the publication in book form of a list of the preparations not in the pharmacopeia that are approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry.

6. We indorse the underlying sentiments of the preamble and resolutions presented by the committee of the State Medical Society of Missouri, of those presented by the section on practice of medicine, and of the resolution presented by Dr. Jones of California.

7. We recommend the adoption of the following motions:

Resolved, That it is reprehensible for the members of this organization to prescribe or use nostrums, and that we request the board of trustees not to advertise any nostrums in the columns of the *Journal*.

Resolved, That we request the board of trustees hereafter to insert in the *Journal* with each advertisement the formulas of remedies which may have been favorably passed on by the Council of Pharmacy and Chemistry for advertisement.

On motion, these recommendations of the committee were concurred in.

8. (a) Your committee is unanimous in the opinion that a blue book, that is, a directory containing the names only of the members of the organization, would not meet the needs of the members, and that a directory of that character would be looked on by those members of the profession outside of the organization in the nature of a boycott of the outsiders, and would, therefore, be prejudicial to the best interests of the association, and would do much to defeat further organization and increase of membership.